

Our Ref.: NTL-3.2.133-3405 (12052SCUS01U)

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

Date September 25, 2000 Label No. EL070146395US

I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above I deposited this paper or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to the Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service.

Rosemarie Median  
Name (Print)

Rosemarie Median  
Signature

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Jerry Freestone, et al.  
Serial No. : To Be Assigned  
Filed : Concurrently Herewith  
For : METHOD FOR ANNOUNCING E-MAIL AND  
CONVERTING E-MAIL TEXT TO VOICE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to its examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**AT THE END OF THE APPLICATION:**

Add a section entitled "ABSTRACT".

After the heading "abstract" please add: "The present invention is a selective announce system for announcing the receipt of electronic mail and instant messages (e-mail). The e-mail has an attached sound file and a predetermined identifier regarding the nature of the sound file. This sound file may be in the sender's voice, a third party's voice, a computer-simulated voice, or some combination. Upon receipt of the e-mail, the sound file is played or used to convert some portion of the e-mail text to voice. The sound file may be played at a

recipient computer or it may be played at a recipient's voice mail or it may be played at some other terminal."

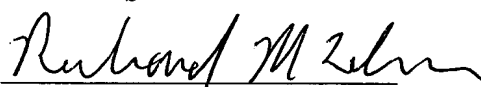
REMARKS

The application has been amended to include a one paragraph abstract which was inadvertently omitted.

An early consideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Dated: September 25, 2000

Respectfully submitted,



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